

REMARKS

The Office Action indicated that Claims 1 to 18 were allowed, but rejected Claims 19 through 21 as being anticipated over the Blancato U.S. Patent No. 4,731,743 under 35 U.S.C. §102.

Claim 19 has been amended and is believed to incorporate allowed subject matter associated with the display image setting step as has been previously recognized in Claim 9.

The present invention addresses a feature wherein a caption, legend or other identification indicia that is included in a slide image but does not need to be displayed to give a presentation can be made invisible at the option of the user when the slide image is to be displayed on the display unit.

The Blancato reference is directed to a combination of a television camera with a digital computer that permits an image of a subject such as a customer to be recorded by the camera and then permits the computer system to manipulate the image to provide a modified or composite video image of the subject with different types of hairstyles as noted in Column 4, line 55. The customer can go through a catalog of pictures of different hairstyles and select the hairstyles that he or she wishes to consider. Data on particular hairstyles had been previously stored on a data diskette. The Blancato disclosure also contemplates being sure that the right prospective viewing angle is utilized and a template is provided for positioning against the screen of a display a zoom lens of the camera is adjusted so that the entire face of the subject is positioned between guidelines 64, 66, 68 and 70 as shown in Figure 4. As can be appreciated, an Apple computer such as MacVision program and a MacPaint program can be utilized to manipulate the picture for editing the view to the customer.

In summary, the Blancato reference discloses capturing an image of a human subject, aligning it at a certain perspective and between certain guidelines and then modifying the image by displaying pre-stored hairstyles that would match the outline of the person's face. The Blancato reference does not disclose nor suggest any step for selectively displaying a slide image including invisible parts between both the slide images that exist before and after the modification. In the Blancato reference, when the subject face is modified with various desired hairstyles, the image attained as a result of the modification is displayed irrespective of the type of modification. Blancato does not address the desires of the present invention to provide an effect wherein a caption, legend or other such information can be made invisible when it does not need to be displayed for presentation.

Our present amended Claim 19 is a program claim and now corresponds to the allowed subject matter of Claim 9 defining a display device and accordingly it is also believed to be novel and allowable over the cited reference. Dependent Claims 20 and 21 are also believed to be allowable.

Finally, applicants had submitted the Japanese references in a prior IDS and a copy of the IDS and the cited references are further attached hereto as requested by the Examiner.

It is believed that the case is now in condition for allowance, and an early notification of the same is requested.

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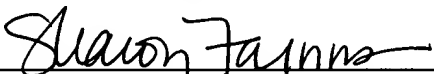
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If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview will help further the prosecution of this case, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 2, 2004.

By: Sharon Farnus

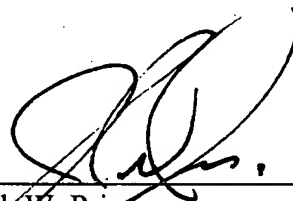


Signature

Dated: November 2, 2004

Very truly yours,

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.



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